

Federal Trade Commission

§ 500.19

by diameter and depth except depth need not be listed when less than 2 inches (5.08 cm).

(Example: "4 pie pans, 8 in. diameter (20.3 cm)" or "2 cake pans, 8 in. diameter × 4 in. (20.3 × 10.1 cm)".)

(b) When the functional use of the container is related by label reference in standard terms of measure to the capability of holding a specific quantity of substance or class of substances such references shall be a part of the net quantity statement and shall specify capacity as follows:

(1) Liquid measure for containers which are intended to be used for liquids, semi-solids, viscous materials or mixtures of solids and liquids. The customary inch/pound statement of capacity shall be stated in terms of the largest whole U.S. gallon of 231 cubic inches, quart, pint, or ounce with any remainder in terms of the common or decimal fraction of that unit.

(Example: Freezer Boxes: "4 boxes, 1 qt. capacity, 6 in. × 6 in. × 4 in. (946 mL capacity, 15.2 × 15.2 × 10.1 cm)".)

(2) Dry measure for containers which are intended to be used for solids. The customary inch/pound statement of capacity shall be stated in terms of the largest whole U.S. bushel of 2,150.42 cubic inches, peck, dry quart, or dry pint with any remainder in terms of the common or decimal fraction of that unit.

(Example: Leaf Bags: "8 bags, 6 bushel capacity, 4 feet × 5 feet (211 L capacity—1.21 m × 1.52 m)".)

(3) Where containers are used as liners for other more permanent containers, in the same terms as are normally used to express the capacity of the more permanent container.

(Example: Garbage Can Liners: "10 liners, 2 ft. 6 in. × 3 ft. 1 in., fits up to 30 gallon cans (76.2 × 93.9 cm, fits up to 113 L cans)".)

(c) Notwithstanding the above requirements, the net quantity statement for containers such as cups will be listed in terms of count and liquid capacity per unit.

(Example: "24 cups, 6 fl. oz. capacity (177 mL)".)

(d) For purposes of this section, the use of the terms "capacity," "diameter," and "fluid" is optional.

§ 500.17 Fractions.

(a) SI metric declarations of net quantity of contents of any consumer commodity may contain only decimal fractions. Other declarations of net quantity of contents may contain common or decimal fractions. A common fraction shall be in terms of halves, quarters, eighths, sixteenths, or thirty-seconds; except that:

(1) If there exists a firmly established general consumer usage and trade custom of employing different common fractions in the net quantity declaration of a particular commodity, they may be employed, and

(2) If linear measurements are required in terms of yards or feet, common fractions may be in terms of thirds. A common fraction shall be reduced to its lowest terms; a decimal fraction shall not be carried out to more than three places.

(b) If a statement includes small fractions, smaller variations in the actual size or weight of the commodity will be permitted as provided in § 500.25, than in cases where the larger fractions or whole numbers are used.

§ 500.18 SI metric prefixes.

The following chart indicates SI prefixes that may be used on a broad range of consumer commodity labels:

Prefix	Symbol	Multiplying factor ¹
Kilo-	k	x 10 ³
Deca-	da	x 10
Deci-	d	x 10 ⁻¹
Centi-	c	x 10 ⁻²
Milli-	m	x 10 ⁻³
Micro-	μ	x 10 ⁻⁶

¹ 10²=100; 10³=1000; 10⁻¹=0.1; 10⁻²=0.01.
Thus, 2 kg=2×1000 g=2000 g, and 3 cm=3×0.01 m=0.03 m.

§ 500.19 Conversion of SI metric quantities to inch/pound quantities and inch/pound quantities to SI metric quantities.

(a) For calculating the conversion of SI metric quantities to inch/pound quantities and inch/pound quantities to metric quantities, the factors in the following chart and none others shall be employed:

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SI METRIC INCH/POUND CONVERSION FACTORS

Inch/pound	Metric
Length	
1 mil=25.4 micrometers (μm)*	1 micrometer= 0.039370 mil.
1 inch=2.54 cm*	1 millimeter=0.039 370 in.
1 foot=30.48 cm*	1 centimeter=0.393 701 in.
1 yard=0.9144m*	1 meter=3.280 84 ft.
Area	
1 square inch=6.4516 cm ² * ...	1 square centimeter=0.155 000 in ² .
1 square foot=929.0304 cm ² *	1 square decimeter=0.107 639 ft ² .
=9.290 304 dm ²	1 square meter=10.763 9 ft ² .
1 square yard=0.836 127 m ² .	
Volume or Capacity	
1 cubic inch=16.3871 cm ³	1 cubic centimeter=0.061 023 7 in ³ .
1 cubic foot=0.028 316 8 m ³	1 cubic decimeter=0.035 314 7 ft ³ .
=2.83 168 dm ³	1 cubic meter=35.314 7 ft ³ .
1 cubic yard=0.764 555 m ³ ...	=1.307 95 yd ³ .
1 fluid ounce=29.573 5 mL ...	1 milliliter=0.033 814 0 fluid oz.
1 liquid pint=473.177 mL	1 liter=1.05669 liquid quart.
=0.473 177 L	1 liter=0.264 172 gallon.
1 liquid quart=946.353 mL	1 dry pint=550.610 5 mL.
=0.946 353 L	1 dry quart=1.101 221 L.
1 gallon=3.785 41 L	1 dry peck=8.809 768 L.
1 bushel=35.2391 L.	
Weight or Mass	
1 ounce=28.349 5 g	1 milligram=0.000 035 274 0 oz.
1 pound=453.592 g	=0.015 432 4 grain.
=0.453 592 kg	1 gram=0.035 274 0 oz.
	1 kilogram=2.204 62 lb.

*Exactly.
NOTE: These conversion factors are given to six significant digits to provide such accuracy when necessary.

(b) The SI metric quantity declaration should be shown in three digits except where the quantity is below 100 grams, milliliters, centimeters, square centimeters or cubic centimeters, where it can be shown in two figures. In either case, any final zero appearing to the right of a decimal point need not be shown.

(Examples: “1 lb (453 g)” not “1 lb (453.592 g)”;
“Net Wt. 2 oz (56 g)” or “Net Wt 2 oz (56.6 g)”
not “Net Wt. 2 oz (56.69 g)”.)

§ 500.20 Conspicuousness.

The statement of net quantity of contents shall appear in conspicuous and easily legible boldface type or print in distinct contrast (by typography, layout, color, embossing, or molding) to other matter on the package; except that a statement of net quantity blown, embossed, or molded

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on a glass or plastic surface is permissible when all label information is so formed on the surface.

§ 500.21 Type size in relationship to the area of the principal display panel.

(a) The statement of net quantity of contents shall be in letters and numerals in a type size established in relationship to the area of the principal display panel of the package or commodity and shall be uniform for all packages or commodities of substantially the same size. For this purpose, “area of the principal display panel” means the area of the side or surface that bears the principal display panel, exclusive of tops, bottoms, flanges at tops and bottoms of cans, and shoulders and necks of bottles and jars. This area shall be:

(1) In the case of a rectangular package or commodity where one entire side properly can be considered to be a principal display panel side, the product of the height times the width of that side;

(2) In the case of a cylindrical or nearly cylindrical container or commodity, 40 percent of the product of the height of the container or commodity times the circumference; and

(3) In the case of any otherwise shaped container or commodity, 40 percent of the total surface of the container or commodity: *Provided*, however, that where such container or commodity presents an obvious “principal display panel” such as the top of a triangular or oval shaped container, the area shall consist of the entire top surface.

(b) With area of principal display panel defined as above, the type size in relationship to area of that panel shall comply with the following specifications:

(1) Not less than $\frac{1}{16}$ inch (1.5 mm) in height on packages the principal display panel of which has an area of 5 square inches or (32.2 cm²) less.

(2) Not less than $\frac{1}{8}$ inch (3.1 mm) in height on packages the principal display panel of which has an area of more than 5 (32.2 cm²) but not more than 25 square inches (161 cm²).